

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 09522

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, CA
SUBJECT: BIO: KLAUS GOLDSCHLAG, DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY,
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

REF: OTTAWA 8296

1. AS PART OF REORGANIZATION OF SENIOR POSITIONS WITHIN
DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (REFTEL), CAREER DIPLOMAT
KLAUS GOLDSCHLAG HAS BEEN APPOINTED DEPUTY UNDER SECRE-
TARY, WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS.

2. GOLDSCHLAG WAS BORN ON MARCH 23, 1922 IN BERLIN,
GERMANY, AND CAME TO CANADA AS REFUGEE WHEN IN HIS
MID-TEENS. HE HOLDS BA AND MA DEGREES FROM UNIVERSITY
OF TORONTO, AND MA FROM PRINCETON. HE JOINED EXTERNAL
AFFAIRS IN 1949, AND SERVED ABROAD IN NEW DELHI, LONDON
AND VIENNA, BEFORE SERVICE AS AMBASSADOR TO TURKEY
(1967-1971) AND ITALY (1973-1976). PRIOR TO RECENT
PROMOTION, HE WAS ONE OF SEVEN ASSISTANT UNDER-SECRE-
TARIES IN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS
THREE CHILDREN.

3. COMMENT: GOLDSCHLAG IS HIGHLY COMPETENT, THOROUGHLY
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PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMAT--CLEARLY, ONE OF CANADA'S BEST.
BY TRAINING AND TEMPERAMENT, HE IS AN INTELLECTUAL,
POSSESSED OF QUICK AND RETENTATIVE INTELLIGENCE, CLEAR
ABILITY TO ABSORB DETAIL, AND HIGHLY DISCIPLINED
APPROACH TO PROBLEM SOLVING. HE WORKS LONG HOURS AND
SETS GRUELING PACE FOR HIS STAFF.

4. GOLDSCHLAG'S PARTICULAR EXPERTISE LIES IN EUROPEAN AND POLITICAL-MILITARY AFFAIRS, BUT CATHOLICITY OF HIS INTERESTS UNDOUBTEDLY PROMPTED SELECTION TO PRESENT ASSIGNMENT.

5. HIS PERSONALITY STRIKES MANY AS BEING OVERLY FASTIDIOUS, LARGELY BEREFT OF ANY RELIEVING TOUCHES OF LIGHT-HEARTED BANTER. HOWEVER, HE CAN BE BOTH CHARMING AND HUMOROUS, LABORED THOUGH HIS JOKES MAY BE. A PHYSICALLY SMALL MAN, HE IS WELL-DRESSED, WELL-GROOMED, AND LOOKS WHAT HE IS: A CULTIVATED MAN OF THE WORLD. HE DISCOURSES INTELLIGENTLY ON MUSIC, THE ARTS, FOOD, WINE AND TRAVEL.

6. GOLDSCHLAG IS NEITHER DEMONSTRABLY PRO NOR ANTI-U.S. HE IS CANDID AND HELPFUL IN DEALING WITH U.S. OFFICIALS, IN PART BECAUSE HE IS A SERIOUS PERSON, AND RECOGNIZES U.S. AS COUNTRY WITH SERIOUS INTERESTS AND GOALS. AT SAME TIME, HE IS STRONG AND EFFECTIVE PROPONENT OF CANADIAN POLICY. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE TENDS TO BE CAUTIOUS, EVEN LEGALISTIC, IN ASSURING THAT CANADA NOT BE SWEEPED ALONG, AGAINST ITS INTERESTS, IN THE GRAND DESIGNS OF ITS NEIGHBOR TO THE SOUTH. DUEMLING

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